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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION OF PORTO RICO
Office of the Commissioner
San Juan

Circular Letter No. 25.

September 24, 1910.

To the Supervising Principals:-

Your attention is called to the following amendment of Section 53 of the Compiled School Laws of Porto Rico, approved March 10, 1910:

> "Corporal punishment is absolutely prohibited in the schools of Porto Rico, except in accordance with regulations issued by the Commissioner of Education in pursuance of Sections 53, 66, and 89 of the Compiled School Law, the Organic Act and other legislative sanction and upon the sanction of the parent or guardian."

Please see that every teacher under your jurisdiction has his attention immediately called to this Section of the School Laws, as amended, as well as to paragraph 209, page 77 of the Compiled School Laws, and also to Circular Letter No. 485 under date of November 11, 1907.

When a grave misdemeanor has been committed by a pupil for which it seems corporal punishment would be the best remedy, written or oral permission (if oral it should be given in the presence of a reliable witness) must be secured from the parent or guardian before the infliction of that form of punishment, which should then be wholly in accordance with paragraph 209 of the School Law. If the parent or guardian refuses such permission, some other form of punishment, such as suspension, must be made use of.

Teacher who disregard either secion of the school laws above quoted or the rules of the Department relative to corporal punishment, will be summarily dealt with.

Respectfully,

(Signed) Edwin G. Dexter
Commissioner of Education

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